

The necessity of having to record and report community involvement and community service in a "small market" is an example of superfluous and wasteful effort. Our stations in Bedford, Indiana, in order to exist and survive are "plugged in" on a daily basis to the needs of our community.

1.) We maintain a full time news staff, and collect and broadcast local news many times daily.

2.) We conduct a daily (Monday thru Friday) hour long, local talk show, called "Talk of the Town", featuring different guests each day from all portions of the community.

3.) We maintain a "guest editorial board", made up of a cross-section of 20 people in the community that write and broadcast their local editorials each day.

4.) We sponsor and broadcast a county-wide "spelling bee" each year, and have done so for the last 29 years. Each school, public and private, as well as "home schooled" students are invited to send a representative.

5.) We promote, provide collection points, and collect toys each Christmas for several agencies that distribute toys to needy children.

6.) We annually give thousands of dollars of air time to agencies like the Lawrence County United Way (\$3,200 in 2004), Lawrence County Community Foundation (\$9,800 in 2004), Boys Club, Girls Club, and many more.

7.) We broadcast high school events from both high schools in our county, including boys and girls sporting events.

8.) We conduct a free to listeners, "Swap Shop" on the air, where listeners can buy, sell, or swap items, at no cost to them.

9.) We broadcast EAS and AMBER alerts, and serve as an alternate control point for the EAS system.

I would invite any commissioner to visit our community, and see first hand how a typical small market station really serves their community.

Sincerely,

Dean Spencer
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WBIW/WQRK/WNUF
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